

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-38 (cancelled).

Claim 39. (New) A rinse system comprising first and second rinse modules, at least a washing stage in said first rinse module and a washing stage and a drying stage in said second rinse module, said first rinse module washing stage including a first rinse module washing stage turret rotatable about an axis of rotation disposed at an angle to the horizontal sufficient to ensure drainage of washing medium from containers during transport thereof by said first rinse module washing stage turret, means for defining pockets of said first rinse module washing stage turret each adapted to receive a container therein with an open container end pointing downwardly at all times during first rinse module washing stage turret rotation, means for guidingly supporting containers during circumferential transport along a first container path of travel between container in-feed into a pocket of said first rinse module washing stage turret and discharge from a pocket thereof, means for washing containers with a washing medium during transport thereof by said first rinse module washing stage turret, said second rinse module washing stage and said second rinse module drying stage

including a respective second rinse module washing stage turret and a second rinse module drying stage turret each rotatable about a respective axis of rotation, said last-mentioned two axes of rotation being disposed in substantially parallel relationship to each other and at an angle to the horizontal sufficient to ensure drainage of washing medium from containers during transport thereof by said second rinse module washing stage turret and said second rinse module drying stage turret, means for defining pockets of said second rinse module washing stage turret and said second rinse module drying stage turret each adapted to receive a container with an open container end thereof pointing downwardly at all times during second rinse module washing stage turret rotation and second rinse module drying stage turret rotation, said second rinse module washing stage turret and said second rinse module drying stage turret each being associated with means for guidingly supporting the containers during circumferential transport along a container path of travel between container in-feed from said first rinse module into a pocket of said second rinse module washing stage turret and container discharge from a pocket of said second rinse module drying stage turret, means for washing containers with a washing medium during transport thereof by said second rinse module washing stage turret, means for directing air onto the containers during transport thereof by said second rinse module drying stage turret to remove washing medium therefrom thereby expediting container drying, said second rinse module

drying stage turret axis being located vertically above said second rinse module washing stage turret axis, and said second rinse module drying stage turret being located at least in part above said second rinse module washing stage turret thereby reducing the floor space occupied by the second rinse module.

40. (New) The rinse system as defined in claim 39 wherein said first rinse module includes a drying stage through which containers are transported between container discharge from said first rinse module washing stage turret and container in-feed to said second rinse module washing stage turret.
41. (New) The rinse system as defined in claim 39 wherein said first rinse module includes a drying stage through which containers are transported between container discharge from said first rinse module washing stage turret and container in-feed to said second rinse module washing stage turret, said first rinse module drying stage includes a first rinse module drying stage turret rotatable about an axis of rotation, said last-mentioned axis of rotation being disposed in substantially parallel relationship to said first rinse module washing stage turret axis of rotation and at an angle to the horizontal sufficient to ensure drainage of washing medium from containers during transport thereof by said first rinse module drying stage turret, means for directing air onto the containers during transport thereof by said first rinse module drying stage turret to remove washing medium

therefrom thereby expediting container drying, said first rinse module drying stage turret axis being located vertically above said first rinse module washing stage turret axis, and said first rinse module drying stage turret being located at least in part above said first rinse modular washing stage turret thereby reducing the floor space occupied by the first rinse module.

42. (New) The rinse system as defined in claim 39 including means for delivering washing medium to the washing means of the first rinse module at a first pressure, means for delivering washing medium to the container washing means of the second rinse module washing stage, and means for regulating the delivery of the washing medium such that the pressure of the washing medium delivered to the second rinse module washing stage is greater than the pressure of the washing medium delivered to the first rinse module washing stage.

43. (New) The rinse system as defined in claim 39 including first and second means for delivering washing medium at respective relatively higher and lower pressures to respective upstream and downstream paths of travel of at least one of said first and second rinse module washing stages whereby containers transported therethrough are subject to higher pressure washing medium at in-feed and lower pressure washer medium toward discharge.

44. (New) The rinse system as defined in claim 39 including first and second means for delivering washing medium at respective relatively higher and lower pressures to respective upstream and downstream paths of travel of at least one of said first and second rinse module washing stages whereby containers transported therethrough are subject to higher pressure washing medium at in-feed and lower pressure washer medium toward discharge, and said low pressure washing medium is supplied to said second rinse module washing stage from a previous rinse module.
45. (New) The rinse system as defined in claim 39 including means for supplying de-ionized water as the washing medium to at least one of said container washing means.
46. (New) The rinse system as defined in claim 39 including means for supplying blended water as the washing medium to at least one of said container washing means.
47. (New) The rinse system as defined in claim 40 including a third rinse module, said third rinse module including a washing stage and a drying stage, said first, second and third rinse modules defining successive paths of travel for containers from in-feed to discharge.